



May 11, 2020

The Honorable Lyda Krewson  
Mayor, City of St. Louis  
City Hall, Room 200  
1200 Market Street  
St. Louis, MO 63103

**RE: Partnership for Jefferson Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street Revitalization Corridors  
2020 BUILD Grant Application**

Dear Mayor Krewson:

On behalf of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD), I am writing to express support for the BUILD Grant application for the Jefferson Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street Revitalization Corridors Project (Jefferson/20<sup>th</sup>).

As a stormwater and wastewater utility service provider in the St. Louis area, MSD is committed to investing in planning, designing, and building system-wide improvements to address water quality and alleviate many wastewater concerns in the St. Louis region, including significant investment in rainscaping. MSD is making this investment within the Mississippi River Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) regions to reduce CSO runoff volume to the Mississippi River. MSD continues to establish partnerships and provides reimbursement for eligible rainscaping as part of our CSO Volume Reduction Green Infrastructure Program. MSD encourages rainscaping practices to improve water quality and contributes to investments that will help meet our commitments and potentially stimulate economic growth. Therefore, partnering with the Jefferson/20<sup>th</sup> team to support rainscaping incorporated into the development plans is beneficial to MSD.

As a supporter of this project, it is our understanding that 60% level design plans indicate that 1.7 acres of additional greenspace can be added to the Jefferson Avenue Corridor from Market Street to Natural Bridge Avenue. After construction is completed, this would increase the pervious area within the existing right-of-way from approximately 4% to a percentage between 11 and 12% (40,000 square feet out of 1,000,000 square feet becomes 114,000 square feet of greenspace, depending on final design factors).

The Jefferson/20<sup>th</sup> Project qualifies for MSD's Project Clear – Rainscaping Program for Large Scale Grants. It is MSD's understanding that the 1.7 acres of drainage area being converted to greenspace will consist of eligible rainscaping components such as grass, miscellaneous plantings and structural soil cells. Under the Project Clear – Rainscaping Program, these 1.7 acres of drainage area qualify for up to \$180,000 per acre, or a total of \$324,000,

MSD is pleased to commit this financial support for the Jefferson Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street Revitalization Corridors. Over the grant period, MSD will provide \$324,000 for 1.7 acres of additional greenspace and added rainscaping features, provided that the final green infrastructure design is in accordance with MSD Rules.

The \$324,000 commitment amount is subject to a rainscaping practices meeting and MSD's rainscaping program requirements for reimbursement, including required design capacity, applicable costs, and the actual drainage area managed. This support promotes environmental benefits to the community through the incorporation of green infrastructure practices.

MSD understands the comprehensive and collaborative nature of the transformation vision for the Jefferson Avenue & 20<sup>th</sup> Street Revitalization Corridors. We also understand the importance of this project tying into the National Geospatial Agency and the Missouri Department of Transportation's two adjacent projects. We are happy to pledge our support. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 314-768-6273 or [blitzsin@stlmsd.com](mailto:blitzsin@stlmsd.com) if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Bruce H. Litzsinger  
Assistant Director of Engineering  
**Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District**